

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8613

S E C R E T JIDDA 5305

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SA, PFOR, US, ENRG

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM KING FAISAL RE MIDDLE EAST PEACE, CONTACTS
WITH PLO AND HELP ON OIL PRICES

1. AMBASSADOR RECEIVED ON SEPTEMBER 12 FOLLOWING LETTER
FROM KING FAISAL ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT FORD. ORIGINAL
BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT, ATTENTION MR. DICKMAN NEA/ARP.
EMBASSY TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

2. QUOTE: IN THE NAME OF GOD THE MERCIFUL AND COMPASSIONATE,
HIS EXCELLENCY GERALD R. FORD, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA.

3. YOUR EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, I RECEIVED YOUR LETTER
DATED AUGUST 29, 1974 WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY'S AMBASSADOR
IN JIDDA BROUGHT TO ME. IN THANKING YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR
THE NOBLE SENTIMENT THIS LETTER CONTAINED I PRAY THAT
ALMIGHTY GOD MAY EXTEND TO YOU HIS STRENGTH AND
SUPPORT AND ENABLE YOU TO ACHIEVE A JUST AND
PERMANENT PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAT WOULD BRING
SECURITY AND STABILITY TO ALL ITS PARTS AND A BETTER
LIFE FOR ALL ITS PEOPLE.

YOUR EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, THE ARAB
PEOPLES AND PARTICULARLY THE PALESTINIANS ARE
LOOKING WITH GREAT HOPE AND TRUST TO YOUR
EXCELLENCY AFTER YOUR REPEATED AFFIRMATIONS --

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TO ALL OF THE ARAB HIGH OFFICIALS WHO HAVE VISITED

WASHINGTON RECENTLY AND WHO MET WITH YOUR EXCELLENCY AND HIS EXCELLENCY DR. KISSINGER, YOUR SECRETARY OF STATE -- THAT JUSTICE WILL BE DONE AND THAT A PEACE BASED UPON JUSTICE SHALL PREVAIL OVER THE REGION.

3. I CONSIDER THAT BRINGING ABOUT A COMPREHENSIVE AND IMMEDIATE SETTLEMENT TO THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION IS NOT AN EASY MATTER FOR YOUR EXCELLENCY AFTER ISRAEL BECAME ACCUSTOMED IN THE COURSE OF PREVIOUS AMERICAN ADMINISTRATIONS TO IMPOSING WHATEVER REQUESTS CAME TO ITS MIND AND OF OBTAINING SATISFACTION WITHOUT ANY DELAY. BUT I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOUR FIRM JUDGMENT, WISDOM, AND DETERMINATION TO FIND A JUST PEACE WILL PREVAIL OVER ALL THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH STAND IN THE WAY. LIKEWISE I FEEL NO DOUBT THAT THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM LIES IN YOUR EXCELLENCY'S HAND IF ISRAEL MERELY SURMISES THAT ITS REQUESTS MIGHT BE FROZEN SHOULD IT NOT LISTEN ATTENTIVELY TO THE VOICE OF REASON AND COMPLY WITH TRUTH AND REALITY.

4. YOUR EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT, I ASSURE YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT THERE CANNOT BE A SETTLEMENT THAT DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LAWFUL INTERESTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

5. ON THE BASIS OF THIS FIRM POLICY IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE UNITED STATES TO EXTEND FEELERS TO THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION IN PREPARATION FOR INVITING IT TO GENEVA AS AN INDEPENDENT DELEGATION SO THAT IT COULD THERE BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY OF REPRESENTING THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

6. YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE PRESIDENT, YOU UNDOUBTEDLY KNOW OUR POSITION ON THE SUBJECT OF PETROLEUM PRICES BUT ALL OF THE OPEC STATES ARE STANDING AGAINST US WITH REGARD TO LOWERING THE PRICES WHICH WE HAVE SUGGESTED -- BECAUSE THEY WISH THEM TO INCREASE STEADILY. BUT AFTER LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH ALGERIA AND IRAN IT HAS BEEN AGREED TO FREEZE THE CURRENT PRICE FOR A FURTHER PERIOD. WE ASK THAT YOU GET IN TOUCH WITH
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YOUR FRIENDS FROM AMONG THE OPEC STATES AND PARTICULARLY IRAN AND ALGERIA TO SUPPORT OUR POSITION WITH REGARD TO LOWERING THE PRICE.

7. WE LOOK FORWARD ALWAYS TO STRENGTHENING THE BOND OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES AND TO DEEPENING THE EXISTING RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

8. WE WISH YOUR EXCELLENCY HEALTH AND SUCCESS;
MAY GOD PRESERVE YOU. /S/ FAISAL,
JIDDA, 24 SHA'BAN, 1394 A.H., (CORRESPONDING TO
SEPTEMBER 11, 1974 A.D. ENDQUOTE.
AKINS

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